

ROUTING

Top Secret 319

(Security Classification)

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Monday 10 April 1978

CG NIDC 78/083C

Warning Notice

Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved

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State Dept. review completed

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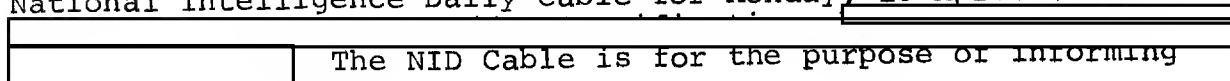
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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Monday, 10 April 1978

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The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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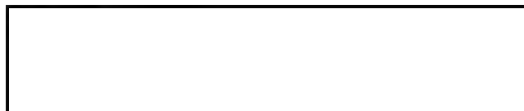
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BRAZIL: After the President's Visit

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SOMALIA: Attempted Coup

25X1 [] //Somali President Siad announced yesterday that
security forces loyal to him had "crushed" a predawn military
25X1 coup attempt and that most of those involved in the attempt
were in custody. [] [] []

25X1 [] the situa-
tion elsewhere in Somalia is completely unclear.//

25X1 [] In his nationwide address, Siad did not specify the
identity or rank of the officers who attempted to overthrow
him, nor did he implicate any foreign country by name in the
military uprising. He did, however, accuse "imperialists and
colonialists--both old and new" of scheming to take advantage
of Somalia's setback in the Ogaden by stirring up chaos within
the country.

25X1 [] //An aide to Siad informed the US Embassy yesterday
morning that the Somali leader was safe, in good health, and in
firm control of the government. []

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25X1 [] //It appears that the dissident forces were unable
to penetrate Mogadiscio itself. The city has remained outwardly
calm, although the presidential compound is under heavy guard

[redacted]

and there are roadblocks at various key points. There has been no action against official US or other foreign installations in and around the capital. No curfew has been announced, and there have been no signs of unusual security precautions at the capital's airport, which remains open.//

[redacted]

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25X1 [redacted] Siad will almost certainly use the attempted coup as a pretext to press the US to speed up a decision on providing defensive arms to Somalia; he will argue that this is the only way to preserve his nation's stability.

25X1 [redacted] Ethiopia thus far has not reacted to the events in Mogadiscio, but the Ethiopians could attempt to take advantage of internal Somali unrest by stirring up trouble along the Ethiopian-Somali border. [redacted]

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BRAZIL: After the President's Visit

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[Redacted] Reaction in Brazil to President Carter's recent visit has been largely favorable. Officials appreciated the President's tact in addressing sensitive topics, and the Brazilian public appears pleased by his acknowledgment of their country's growing world importance. Although Brazilians do not believe that differences with the US are less serious or complicated than before, they may well think the visit will promote a more constructive dialogue in the future.

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[Redacted] President Geisel has not commented thus far, but two top aides have publicly characterized the visit as a success. Finance Minister Simonsen termed it "very good from a political point of view," and Foreign Minister Silveira--a sensitive nationalist--said the trip had been "very productive."

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[Redacted] The Brazilian press highlighted the President's friendly manner and his statements that Brazil is a major actor in world affairs as setting the tone for the visit and putting apprehensive Brazilian officials at ease. The press also expressed admiration that the President, albeit in a low-key way, made clear his intention to stick to his human rights and non-proliferation positions.

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[] Top officials are undoubtedly relieved that their fears of an all-out confrontation were not realized. The shrill anger and apprehension voiced by some officials just before the visit may have been deliberately exaggerated to convince the President that he should be circumspect.

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[] It seems likely that even some officials most critical of US policies on human rights and nonproliferation have now been convinced of the sincerity of the President's views and his determination to stand his ground. []

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